



HEALTH *link*

A Publication of the Arizona Department of Health Services

October 1994

Section Formed To Fight TB

The Arizona Department of Health Services has created a special section to focus on the control and elimination of tuberculosis in Arizona.

The TB Elimination Section was formed on Oct. 17, during Tuberculosis Awareness month. It is staffed by three employees and managed by Paul Tribble, a federal public health advisor assigned to Arizona in early October by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention.

"Management of the state TB control program will be greatly enhanced through Paul's role as the full-time program manager," said Dr. Lawrence Sands, ADHS state epidemiologist. "We are very excited about the formation of the section and the role it will play to rid Arizona of the threat of TB."

Tribble has much public health experience. For the past six years he served as the CDC public health advisor assigned to the Hawaii TB control program. Before joining CDC in 1988, he worked as the refugee health program coordinator for the Oklahoma Department of Health.

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Lead-laced candy wrappers.

Candy Wrapper Lead Sparks ADHS Warning

A discovery that several types of candy manufactured in Mexico contain lead in the wrappers prompted the Arizona Department of Health Services to issue a warning to parents earlier this month.

The advisory, sent to media outlets and county health departments statewide, announced that tests performed by the ADHS State Laboratory found very high lead levels in the wrappers of six types of Mexican candy.

Two of the county health departments—Pima and Santa

Cruz—played key roles in the discovery, for they submitted the initial candy samples to the State Lab.

Testing by the lab found lead levels ranging from 910 parts per million (ppm) to 6,700 ppm in the wrappers.

By comparison, lead levels found earlier this year by ADHS in Chinese crayons were around 800 ppm.

"You shouldn't have any lead in the wrapping of a product intended to be eaten by kids," said Cecile Fowler, manager of the ADHS childhood lead prevention program.

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TB Awareness Month Focuses On Workplaces

By Jeff Davis

The Arizona Department of Health Services and other health agencies marked October as Tuberculosis Awareness Month by calling on employers to adopt aggressive infection control programs.

"The risk of becoming infected with tuberculosis is greater today than it has been in many years. A disease which was once believed almost wiped out has made a resurgence," said Dr. Larry Sands, ADHS State Epidemiologist.

"The transmission of tuberculosis is a recognized risk in health care facilities and other

workplaces, posing a significant risk to workers," Sands said. He added that the highest risk places for people to live or work include hospitals and clinics, prisons, homeless shelters, nursing homes, and drug treatment centers.

"Tuberculosis is a totally avoidable health problem," Sands said. "We recommend that high-risk occupational settings follow the guidelines recommended by the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention to control TB in the workplace."

Sands added that high-risk workplaces should screen employees annually using a TB skin test. Other necessary infection-control measures include surveillance of case among employees and patients, environmental controls and TB education in the workplace.

ADHS, the Arizona Lung Association and the Maricopa County Department of Public Health launched the awareness month at a TB Media Day in Phoenix Oct. 6.

TB is a contagious disease spread through the air by coughing, sneezing and speaking that usually affects the lungs. Most people carry TB germs without becoming ill, but one in 10 will develop the disease. Symptoms include a persistent cough, fatigue, weight loss, fever, chills and night sweats.

"A person can be infected with tuberculosis for years and be perfectly healthy," said Dr. Steven Englender, director of the Maricopa County Department of Public Health. "However, if the body's immune system is impaired either due to aging

TB Section

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Tuberculosis is a contagious disease that is spread through the air and usually affects the lungs. Cases have been on the upswing nationally, increasing 20 percent from 1985 to 1992. In Arizona, 324 cases were reported in 1991, the largest number reported in the state in one year. This year, 173 cases had been reported as of earlier this month. ☼

or other illness, the TB infection can become TB disease which can pose serious health problems."

In 1993 there were 230 tuberculosis cases reported in Arizona, including 25 deaths, according to ADHS. Three of the cases involved health care workers and a dozen were reported among residents of long-term care and correctional facilities.

Last year the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration implemented new rules for employees at health care facilities, prisons, homeless shelters, and other high risk facilities.

The stringent guidelines require workers to receive pre-employment TB skin testing, to wear special filter masks and to be educated about TB. Employers must also develop procedures to identify and manage suspected and confirmed TB cases among employees and residents, and install special ventilation systems for rooms where TB patients are isolated. ☼

HealthLink

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HealthLink's mission is to keep our employees and state policymakers informed about events involving the state health department. We welcome any ideas, comments or guest articles.

Fife Symington, Governor
Jack Dillenberg, DDS, MPH, Director

Brad Christensen, Editor
Eileen Mitchell, Asst. Editor
Contributing writers, October issue:
Jeff Davis, Ellen Falke, Carol Murray.

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Correction

A note in the September HealthLink about the Seeds of Crisis Symposium contained a \$400 million typo. State behavioral health funding was \$49.3 million in 1986, not \$449.3 million. ☼

Child Care Office Hub Of Activity

Workers at the ADHS Offices of Child Care Licensure say parents and day care providers have been running them ragged.

The staffers at offices in Phoenix, Tucson and Flagstaff actually are victims of their own inventiveness, but they say they don't mind the extra work because it benefits children.

The licensure offices have initiated several projects aimed at educating parents and providers about day-care regulation.

The projects have included publication of a free day care guide for parents, presentation of a series of workshops for employees of day care centers, and production of a pair of training videos.

Parents' Guide

A 12-page booklet called *A Parents' Guide to Child Care* was prepared by the Phoenix Licensure Office and promoted with a news release from the Public Information Office.

"By Oct. 10, about two weeks after making the guide available, we had shipped almost all 10,000 copies out the door and had started to prepare for a second printing," said Edward Smith, the editor of the guide.

Marlene Morgan, manager of the Office of Child Care Licensure, said the guide seeks to "raise the awareness of parents so they will be better equipped to find the best child care facilities."

The guide contains information about licensed child care in Arizona, including staff-to-child ratios, state inspection policies, and procedures the public can use to file a complaint against a child-care facility and to view the inspection and complaint record of any facility.

One section outlines ten rights of parents, including the right to view a

facility's play area and rooms at any time during operating hours, the right of immediate notification of any serious injury or accident, and the right of parental permission before a child can be taken swimming or on a field trip.

Another section answers the ten most frequently asked questions about child-care regulation in Arizona. The guide also carries a checklist of questions parents should consider when selecting a child-care facility.

The guide also lists important phone numbers for parents, including those belonging to several ADHS offices, a poison control center, a national child abuse hotline, Parents Anonymous, the Children's Information Center, the National Association for the Education of Young Children, and many more.

Copies of the guide and a news release were sent to newspapers and radio and television stations statewide. The Arizona Republic, which has been supportive of child-health projects, and KTVK Channel 3 News in Phoenix were among the media outlets who informed their readers and viewers of the free guide.

The guide can be obtained by contacting ADHS child care licensure offices at 255-1272 in Phoenix, 628-6540 in Tucson, or 774-2707 in Flagstaff.

Provider Workshops

The child care licensure offices put on a road show of educational workshops for operators and employees of day care centers. Workshops sites were Kingman, Phoenix, Scottsdale, Tucson and Yuma.

State regulations governing discipline, precautions against AIDS and other matters were explained at the workshops.



Smith & Morgan with Parents' Guide.

All were set on Saturdays and most were held last month. The last currently scheduled workshop is slated for Oct. 29 at the ADHS Child Care Licensure Training Room, 1647 E. Morten in Phoenix.

"The purpose of the workshops is to provide free training in the interest of helping licensed child care providers understand and implement the rules governing child care," Morgan said.

Morgan said that in the area of discipline, for example, employees of day-care centers need to know that all forms of corporal punishment—from shaking to spanking—are prohibited by state regulations. Other areas covered playground safety and precautions against hepatitis-B, AIDS and other blood-borne diseases.

Training Videos

Two videos were produced by the Tucson licensure office for all licensure offices to use as training tools. One focuses on group homes and the other spotlights centers, said Myrna Bowles of the Tucson office.

"The videos show owners of these facilities what to expect in terms of licensure and inspection," Bowles said.

Bowles said the videos were professionally done and featured Patty Weiss of KVOA Channel 4 in Tucson. ☼



ADHS's winning Childhood Lead Prevention Team.

Excellence Awards Won By Curlis, Lead Team

The Arizona Department of Health Services won two of the top honors at the 1994 "Spirit of Excellence" ceremony held early this month.

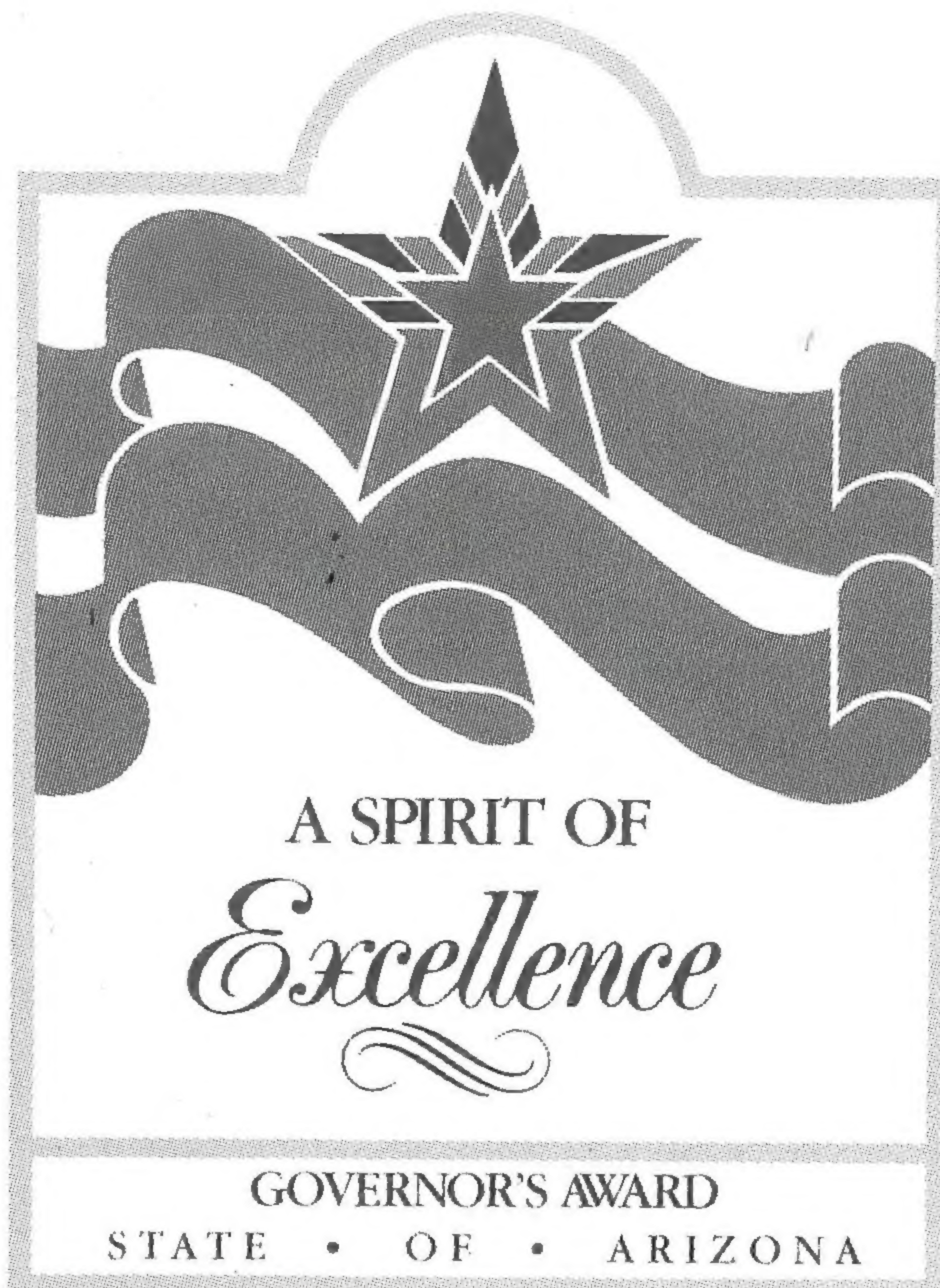
Purchasing manager Ed Curlis and the childhood-lead-prevention team headed by Cecile Fowler each won a Governor's Award for Excellence.

Awards for Excellence were presented by Governor Fife Symington to 17 individuals and 10 teams throughout state government at a ceremony held Oct. 3 at the Wyndham Paradise Valley Resort.

Curlis, according to a statement supporting his award, "was able to use his TQM knowledge to improve quality and reduce costs. For example, he required that vendors supply him with data on purchase history and then creatively found a way to customize standard contracts. As a result, three non-value-added positions were eliminated and the cycle time for purchases was reduced on average 3 to 5 days."

The childhood-lead-prevention team absorbed a 500% increase in the

number of lead poisoning investigation cases last year and still found time to warn the public about two unusual sources of lead poisoning—bulk water tanks in Yuma and crayons from China. ADHS's crayon warning drew news inquiries from coast to coast and led to the federal recall of at least a dozen brands of crayons imported from China.



Curlis wins individual award.

The lead team's nomination form described efforts to develop a way of tracking children and ensuring their lead levels drop.

It also said the team understands "the importance of media in getting information to the public."

The members of the team are Cecile Fowler, Patty Arreola, Kristina Schaller, Ernest Arvizu and Minnie Jimenez from ADHS Risk Assessment; Brad Christensen from ADHS Public Information; Norm Petersen and Clare Kioski of ADHS Disease Prevention; Joe Soltis and Pat Adler from the ADHS State Lab; Cecilia Rosales and Anastasia Kyriacou from the Pima County Health Department; and Dr. Leslie Boyer from the Arizona Poison Control Center.

ADHS also won eight of the 84 "Recognition Awards" that were meted out.

The Recognition Award winners:
— Monique Carpenter, business manager for the director's office.

— Dorothy Cooper, Office of Women's and Children's Health.

— Budget preparation process team.

— Community & Family Health Services employee council.

— Flagstaff office of child care licensure.

— Partnerships for Healthy Children team.

— Planning & Evaluation Data Center.

— Purchasing TQM team.

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Lead Candy

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"Children will put wrappers in their mouths and the candy itself can be contaminated if it becomes damp while packaged or if it is rewrapped after being partially eaten," she added.

The U.S. Food & Drug Administration—the federal agency responsible for ensuring the safety of food and drugs—has been notified of the tainted-wrappers problem, Fowler added.

The FDA recommends that children younger than 7 consume no more than 6 micrograms of lead from all food sources daily. For the candy wrapper with the 910 ppm reading—the lowest lead level analyzed—the FDA's "tolerable limit" would be exceeded if slightly more than 1/100th of the wrapper were eaten by a child.

Lead in children can cause behavioral problems, impaired motor skills and decreased I.Q. at lower levels and convulsions and even coma in severe cases.

On another front, the California Department of Health Services has prompted the recall and replacement of one type of imported candy, Brinquitos, manufactured in Mexico by Alpro Alimentos Proteinicos, s.a.

Brinquitos now are being packaged in lead-free white paper with colored printing. The unsafe

Brinquitos were wrapped in brightly colored paper. On both the old and new packaging there is a picture of a smiling frog seated on a lily pad.

Candy found by ADHS to contain high levels of lead in wrappers were:

Paleta Ricorindo. Large lollipop with a 6" stick and dark brown soft candy. 4,000 ppm lead.

Paleton Crispin. Large lollipop with a flat wood stick and dark brown soft candy. 1,700 ppm lead.

Vero Elotes. A corn lollipop with a red and clear cellophane wrapper with yellow printing. 6,700 ppm lead.

Vero Mango. Mango lollipop with a clear cellophane wrapper with yellow and blue printing. 910 ppm lead.

Vero Rebanaditos. Two types: Watermelon lollipop with dark brown hard candy and cellophane wrapper with red printing (2,300 ppm lead); and red and green hard candy lollipop with a cellophane wrapper (3,300 ppm lead).



In California, Brinquitos wrapping was investigated as a source in a child lead poisoning case. No Arizona case of childhood lead poisoning has been linked to Mexican candy. "We are issuing this warning because it is our responsibility as a public health agency to make parents aware of a potential source of lead poisoning," Fowler said.

Other sources of lead include chips or dust from lead-based paint, leaded solder and pipes, lead-glazed pottery, leaded crystal, soil near roadways and lead industries, and the home-remedy powders Azarcon and Greta.

For more information about lead poisoning, call the ADHS Lead Line at 1-800-367-6412.✧



Pearson spreading the public health message.

ADHS Pair Honored

Two from ADHS's Community & Family Health Services received awards last month from the Arizona Public Health Association.

Jane Pearson, assistant director, won the AzPHA Honor Award for her contributions to public health. Barbara Olson, adolescent health expert, was awarded the Harold B. Woodward Achievement Award for promotion and betterment of AzPHA.

The nomination form for Pearson said her work has brought Arizona "to the forefront in many maternal and child public health program areas.... Through her various roles in the Office of Women's & Children's Health and as assistant director of Family & Community Health Services, Jane has provided the direction, active involvement and support that has resulted in the creation of new programs and the expansion of existing valuable public health efforts."

Olson was honored for organizing a conference on health promotion and disease prevention that involved AzPHA, ADHS, the Safe Kids Coalition, Arizona School Health Association and the Arizona Department of Education. Olson was able to bring the organizations together and broaden the conference's scope.✧

Excellence

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"We're being recognized nationally as a government that is serious about embracing quality," Governor Symington during the ceremony. The governor's wife, Ann, added: "I want to thank all of you for helping this administration improve state government."✧

New Report Outlines Primary Care Goals

Plans are under way in Arizona to broaden the availability of basic health care services to children, according to a report released last month by the Arizona Department of Health Services.

The report, *Primary Care Systems Development: A Future for Arizona's Children*, identifies historic barriers to care, sets improvement goals and outlines a plan to extend primary care services to 95% of all children by the year 2000.

"This plan already has momentum," ADHS Director Jack Dillenberg told reporters during a briefing held to unveil the report.

"This is one of the most exciting things we're doing in health care today," added Elizabeth McNamee, vice president of Intergroup Health Care Corp. and a member of a task force formed by ADHS to study primary care.

Jane Pearson, assistant director for ADHS Community & Family Health Services, told reporters that the benefits of primary care will be felt beyond basic services such as check-ups, immunizations and dental care. "A child who is vulnerable to committing suicide could be identified through primary care," she said.

Officials also noted that Arizona's primary care activities have drawn the interest of U.S. Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders. Elders will visit Arizona Nov. 28 to participate in a conference on an inventive primary care program involving 43 schools



Reporters attend ADHS briefing on primary care.

statewide.

The report lists objectives and action steps for primary care improvement by the year 2000. For example, it calls for at least 95% of all children to have a specific source of ongoing primary care and for the number of areas with insufficient numbers of primary care providers to be decreased by 25%.

It also sets goals for increased oral-health-screening and immunization levels and calls for at least 90% of all infants and toddlers younger than 18 months to receive all recommended primary care services.

The objectives were developed by a 51-member task force representing state and local health officials, pediatricians, health insurers, child advocates and other entities.

The report said access to care traditionally has been a problem in Arizona due to spotty health insurance coverage—particularly by the working poor—and by the lack of health providers in rural areas. It added that a 1990 survey by the Flinn Foundation found that 12% of Arizona's children have no usual source of health care. Another past Flinn survey indicated that about half a million Arizonans lacked health

insurance.

"Arizona has unique population demographics that make it especially vulnerable to a fragmented and episodic system of services," the report said.

It noted that three-quarters of the population is concentrated in Phoenix and Tucson and the remaining 25% is dispersed throughout the state, often in isolated rural communities. Also, a proportionately small percentage of Arizona's primary care providers—12%—lives in the rural areas, creating a situation where residents must travel long distances for services.

The report highlighted nine programs ADHS currently is implementing to improve the system. They are:

Community Development Grants. At least five \$5,000 grants will be made available by ADHS to school districts this fiscal year to develop plans to improve primary care services to students. The number of grants could reach 17 this year if a proposal submitted to the National Maternal & Child Health Bureau is approved.

Medical Home. Under this pilot project, children of "working poor" families in participating school

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Primary Care

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districts are referred to health providers who have agreed to make some reduced-rate appointment slots available.

During the past school year, 23 primary care physicians and 17 specialists signed up as providers and 98 children in 8 school districts received discounted services. The project, a partnership involving ADHS and the American Academy of Pediatrics, will be expanded this year.

Medical Home Provider

Training. A program to provide in-service training to primary care providers regarding the Medical Home concept.

School-Based/School-Linked Centers. A program in which centers based at or linked to schools provide primary-care, counseling and/or social services. The centers sometimes are called "community and family resource centers." There are 43 of them currently operating in Arizona. Their locations range from Concho Elementary in Apache County to Nogales High in Santa Cruz County.

Nursing Model of Care. Under this program a mobile clinic under the direction of community nursing faculty at Arizona State University visits several homeless shelters in the Phoenix area.

Primary Care Marketing. A program to boost the training and use of professional nurses and to enhance public understanding of the importance of immunization, health screening and other primary care services.

Primary Care Tracking. A group that includes representatives of ADHS, AHCCCS, health insurers and others is looking at the development of a system to track the primary care status of children. Officials involved in the development



Sonoran study group tours the ADHS State Lab.

Mexican Scientists Visit State Lab

The ADHS State Laboratory played host to eight young scientists from Mexico last month.

The scientists—all postgraduate students from the Technological Institute of Sonora—were in town for training on how to test water for herbicides.

Herbicide testing is quite complicated, involving two separate analytical procedures, said Patricia Adler, manager of the lab's office of environmental and analytical chemistry.

of a new computerized immunization tracking system are providing assistance.

Hand-Held Medical Record. A pilot project is planned whereby each participating primary care provider would complete a health status form following every child checkup. The forms would be given to parents who would collect them in a binder.

Program Evaluation. Development of a database of all primary care services available statewide.✻

The training, conducted as part of the Border Commission exchange program, lasted three days. Last year, a group from the State Lab visited Ciudad Obregon—the home of the Technological Institute—to conduct a seminar on pesticide testing.

"We're sure this relationship with the Institute will continue and we're very willing to help in any way we can to help protect the environment on both sides of the border," said State Lab Director Barbara Erickson.

Adler predicted that information exchanges with Mexico will become more frequent and more important with the implementation of the North Atlantic Free Trade Agreement.

During last month's visit, two lab employees—Christina Finan and Patrick Leyva—spent and exhausting three days doing the translations from English to Spanish and back again, working from early morning to early evening. Finan even used her own money to buy a meal for the students, reciprocating for generosity shown by the Mexicans in the purchase of a previous meal.✻



Partnership partners: Governor's Office for Children Director Lynne Gallagher, Raul Espericueta of the Arizona Community Foundation, Gubernatorial Executive Assistant Mary Leader, AHCCCS Director Mabel Chen, Governor Fife Symington, ADHS Director Jack Dillenberg, and Department of Economic Security Director Linda Blessing.

Children's Partnership Backed By Agency Chiefs

The Partnership for Children—a project that seeks to redesign Arizona's family and children's services—has received a boost from those responsible for delivering social services.

Governor Symington, directors of four of the affected state agencies and other key officials assembled last month to demonstrate their support for the Partnership for Children project. They are pictured

in the above photograph. The directors also signed a letter endorsing the project.

The Partnership project began in 1991 when the Arizona Community Foundation and the Tucson Community Foundation won a grant from the Ford Foundation to develop a comprehensive and integrated system of statewide services for children and families.

The Children's Action Alliance, the state's major child advocacy group, also has been involved from the start in the planning and implementation of the process.

Additionally the governor and Mrs. Symington have been

enthusiastically supportive of the project. The Governor's Office for Children, meantime, has provided key staff support and undertaken much of the leg work.

"Our aim is to simplify and improve the system," said Jane Wabnik, special assistant with the Governor's Office for Children. "We want to have a system that looks seamless to the client"

Wabnik said the partnership is looking at a single point of entry for services and referrals and a common eligibility document. "We want one-stop shopping," she says.

"We also want to emphasize prevention and intervention as approaches for families and children instead of waiting to respond to crisis needs," she added.

Three entities have been tentatively selected as prototype sites where system changes will be tested, Wabnik said. They are the community of Casa Grande, the Murphy School District in Phoenix and the C.E. Rose Family Resource Center in Tucson. Implementation at the test sites is expected to begin in 1995. ☼

Council Reports Rapid Start

By Ellen Falke

The ADHS Training Council has been meeting only a few months and already it has put together an orientation program for new employees and started work on a central training calendar, a training plan, and a tracking system for employee training.

The Training Council serves as an advisory body to the Office of Quality Support & Training (QST) and as an important link between QST and the department's service areas.

At a recent three-day team training workshop, council members identified areas where they felt ADHS needed to focus immediate attention. Lack of effective/efficient training for staff at ADHS was the major problem identified.

At the root of the problem, according to council members, were budgetary constraints, lack of data showing the cost/benefit of training, lack of support from some managers, employee attitudes, lack of experts to offer in-house training, too few training staff, inadequate communication and coordination, and no department training plan.

To rectify some of these problems, the team identified the training calendar, needs assessment, and training plan as its highest priorities. Becoming more visible was also a need identified. So the Training Council decided to use HealthLink as one of their "links" to ADHS employees. Feel free to call your service area's representative. If you don't know who your rep is, consult the accompanying photo and list.

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Training

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Training Council members are:

- Mike Beaghler, ASH, 220-6102
- Charmaine D'Souza, SLS, 255-3454
- Suzanne Eckerson, CFHS, 542-2813
- Ellen Falke, QST, 542-1014
- Dan Flukas, Personnel, 542-1085
- Doug Hirano, Director's Ofc, 542-1023
- Gordon Hope, SAMHC, 602/628-5238, ext. 107
- Alyce Michas, DPS, 230-5802
- Susan Sanders, BHS, 381-8990
- John Smalling, ITS, 542-2783
- Lynn Turner, HCCRS, 255-1177
- Jane Wright, B&FS, 542-1150



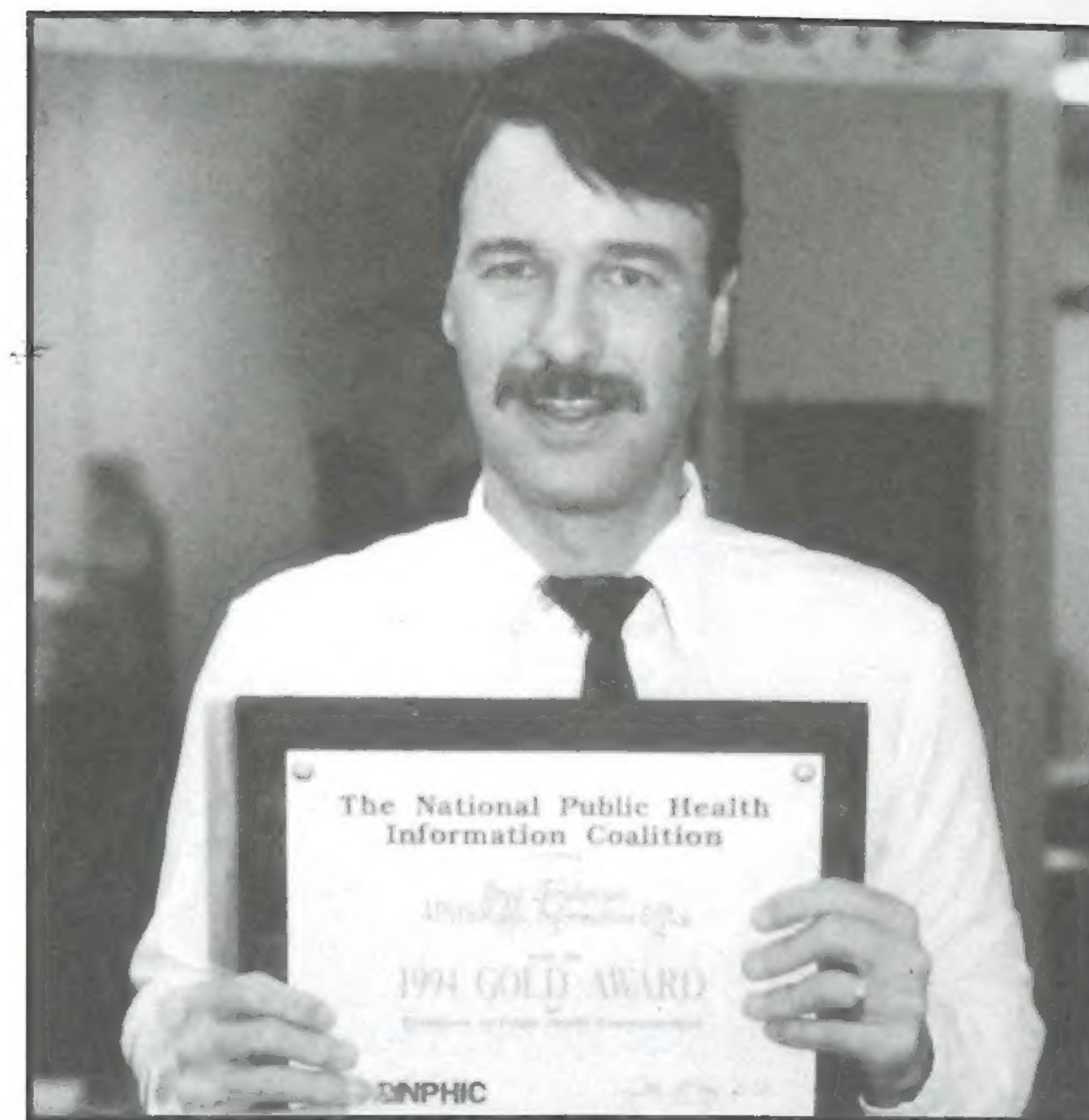
In other training-related notes and developments:

DOA Training. The Department of Administration training section is only offering new employee orientation and ethics classes during the fourth quarter, so don't expect to see the next quarterly training calendar until January. The Office of Quality

Support and Training will transmit the first quarter DOA training calendar via e-mail to employees on the LAN and via hard copy to the others.

If you have special training needs (EPAS, supervisory training, etc.), give Roger Andrus a call (542-1014) or e-mail. If there are enough people interested, we may be able to offer a class this fall at ADHS.

Quality & Team Training. The Office for Excellence in Government Institute offers various courses on building effective teams, process-improvement tools, and quality issues. If you need a catalog and calendar, call Institute registrar Katie Huse, 255-7171. ADHS is now able to offer Introduction to Quality in Government and Building Effective Teams classes in-house at a much reduced rate, thanks to the OEG's adjunct faculty program. The 4-hour Introduction to Quality class is only \$5.50 per person (versus \$25 if taken through the Institute's vendor) while the three-day Building Effective Teams class is only \$19.20 per person (versus \$160). Call Ellen Falke at 542-1014 if you're interested. ☼



Christensen

ADHS Wins National PIO Award

The Arizona Department of Health Services has been awarded a 1994 Gold Award from the National Public Health Information Coalition for excellence in public health communications.

The first place award was won by Public Information Officer Brad Christensen for his December 1993 news release, "ADHS Study Finds School Injury 'Epidemic.'"

The award was presented to Christensen last month during NPHIC's annual meeting in Seattle.

Steve Tomajczyk of the New Hampshire Division of Public Health tied Christensen's score for news releases and also took home the Gold.

NPHIC, an organization of public information officers from all state and territorial health departments, annually honors the top information campaigns, news releases, posters, public service announcements and other projects. Entries are judged by an objective panel of school and public health faculty. This year's award was the first ever won by ADHS. ☼



The ADHS Training Council

Standing: John Smalling, Dan Flukas, Doug Hirano, Jane Wright, Alyce Michas, Charmaine D'Souza, Gordon Hope, Susan Sanders, Mike Beaghler; Front row: Suzanne Eckerson, Lynn Turner, Ellen Falke.

ADHS News Notes

By Carol Murray & Friends

Governor Symington presented new ambulances to five rural communities during a ceremony earlier this month. The recipients were Bisbee, Buckeye, Holbrook, Somerton and Wickenburg. The state program to provide ambulances to rural areas is administered by the ADHS Office of Emergency medical Services. The ambulances are purchased with funds obtained from fines for civil, criminal and local traffic violations. They are loaned for five years, but the period is renewed as long as the local services needs the unit. More than 50 ambulances have been distributed since 1984.

The U.S. Congress has passed legislation authorizing the creation of a **Border Health Commission** with Mexico. Locally, the Arizona Medical Association held press conferences in Phoenix and Tucson to hail the action. ADHS was represented in Phoenix by Joel Meister, head of the new Center for Prevention & Health Promotion, and in Tucson by Director Jack Dillenberg, who personally testified in favor of the legislation earlier this year in Washington. "This legislation recognizes that environmental hazards and life-threatening diseases pay no heed to national boundary lines and that real progress against border health ills can be achieved only through open collaboration with our Mexican counterparts," Dr. Dillenberg said.

Southern Arizona Mental Health Center started a program last month as part of a federal effort to monitor Social Security recipients whose disability is **drug addiction or**

alcoholism. Treatment is a requirement to receive SSI funds. The SAMHC team is doing intensive patient assessment, treatment referrals, and monitoring for compliance. The Social Security Administration has recognized drug and alcohol addiction as disabilities since 1976.

The **Arizona State Hospital** has been awarded \$60,000 in Heritage Fund money for a project to preserve the historic Old Administration Building at the hospital. The grant announcement was made last month by James Garrison, historic preservation officer for the Arizona State Parks Department.

The Governor's Office of Highway Safety is launching a **Safe & Sober Campaign** targeting impaired drivers, non-use of seat belts, and speed violations. The national goal is to reduce the alcohol-related proportion of traffic fatalities to 43 percent and to increase seat belt use to 75 percent by 1997.

The newest face in the office of **Quality Support & Training** is a familiar one. Roger Andrus, formerly the manager for ADHS human resources development, has returned to ADHS following a 2-year assignment with the Office of Excellence in Government. Andrus joins Ellen Falke in the QST office.

Ministering to the Mentally Ill was the theme of the Annual Fall Symposium held this month at the Arizona State Hospital Chapel. The event, sponsored by the Department of Pastoral Care at ASH, featured Dr. Steward Govig, a professor of religion at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma and author of

books and articles on mental illness.

The ADHS **Office of Nutrition Services** was among the lead sponsors and planners of a conference on nutrition and the special-needs child. The You Make A Difference conference was being held Oct. 26-28 at the Fiesta Inn in Tempe. Speakers included Dr. Sundin Applegate of ADHS, Cary Bujold of the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, Lynne Corbin of the Indian Children's Program in Flagstaff and several other child health experts.

Fire Prevention Week, held Oct. 9-15, was sponsored by the National Fire Prevention Association and the American Red Cross. The theme for this year's campaign focused on the first line of defense in a fire—smoke detectors. More than 3,700 people were killed in home fires last year, many simply because they were not alerted in time. The campaign encouraged people to test their detectors once a month, to change the batteries every year and to replace detectors more than 10 years old.

Arizona State Hospital marked the opening of renovated forensic and behavioral management units last month with a presentation titled "**The Insanity Defense: Getting Away With Murder?**" The presentation was given by internationally known forensic psychiatrist Jonas Rapoport, M.D. Under an Arizona statutory change that went into effect in January, "not guilty by reason of insanity" was replaced by "guilty except insane." The new law—called Laura's Law—is intended to safeguard the public from any outright release of a murderer from the state hospital. ✪

County & Community Corner

Spotlight On SANTA CRUZ

By Patrick Zurick

The Santa Cruz County Health Department is actively involved in health issues related to our location on the U.S.-Mexico border. In the past year we have met with more than 25 agencies and organizations regarding border health concerns.

Nature has designed the topography of our area so that water and air flow north. Although pollution is generated on both sides of the border, the Nogales, Sonora area has experienced more rapid population and industrial growth than has Santa Cruz County. The population of Nogales, Sonora may be more than 300,00 while the population of Nogales, Ariz. is around 20,000.

The county health department is participating in several studies of our health problems and how they may be related to the environment. The studies address:

Cancer. Upon hearing reports that Nogales, Ariz. may have unusually high rates of multiple myeloma and lupus, Governor Symington toured Nogales last December. During the tour the governor announced that the Arizona Department of Health Services would be financing a \$100,000 study to determine the extent and possible causes of the problem. County health department personnel have worked with ADHS and the University of Arizona during the development of the study plan.

As part of the cancer

Migrant Kids Aided

Day care service for 16 children of migrant farm workers began this month in Surprise, thanks to the efforts of a community advocacy group and the United Way.

Concern for the health of young children who grow up in vegetable fields prompted the non-profit group Centro Adelante Campesino to seek a grant from the United Way for day care services, reported Betty Reid in a Northwest zone edition of The Arizona Republic/Phoenix Gazette.

The United Way came through with \$10,000 and Centro Adelante hired day-care providers licensed by the state.

"At 5 in the morning, the children should not be out there," Centro Adelante executive director Jose Ojeda said. "They are in the path of crop-dusters or exposed to the early-morning cold, and that should not happen."

Last year Centro Adelante operated a similar day-care program, but funding ran out. Centro Adelante was founded by a group of migrant farm workers in 1978. ☼

investigation, a survey of 800 people has been conducted. The survey included collection of blood samples. Results are expected soon.

Air. The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, fueled by a grant from the federal EPA, is monitoring the air in the Nogales area for particulates and hazardous air pollutants. County health department personnel have received training and are helping to operate some of the equipment.

Water. The EPA, ADEQ, the International Boundary & Water Commission, county personnel, and Mexican officials are developing a plan to drill groundwater monitoring wells on both sides of the border along the Nogales Wash, which flows north from Sonora through downtown Nogales, Ariz. The wash, now chlorinated around the clock, has been found to carry raw sewage, heavy metals, chemicals, viruses and parasites.

Sewage. The county is monitoring sewage from Nogales, Ariz. and Nogales, Son. for cholera. Eight samples are collected each month and analyzed by the ADHS State Laboratory. The county was notified on a Friday in June that a sample tested positive to toxigenic *Vibrio Cholera* 01. County personnel spent the weekend notifying doctors, the hospital and food establishments, and the food establishments were provided information about preventing the spread of cholera through proper food handling.

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The Santa Cruz County Health Department also is involved in many other health services programs, including one to protect wells from contamination.

The EPA has provided a grant to develop a wellhead protection program. Under the program, pollution sources will be identified

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Breast Cancer Targeted

By Jeff Davis

ADHS's Women's Cancer Control Project is coordinating a new one-hour class to educate state employees about breast cancer and its detection and prevention.

The class, called Breast Health: Three Steps That Could Save Your Life, was announced by Arizona First Lady Ann Symington earlier this month during the kick-off press conference for Breast Cancer Awareness Month in Arizona.

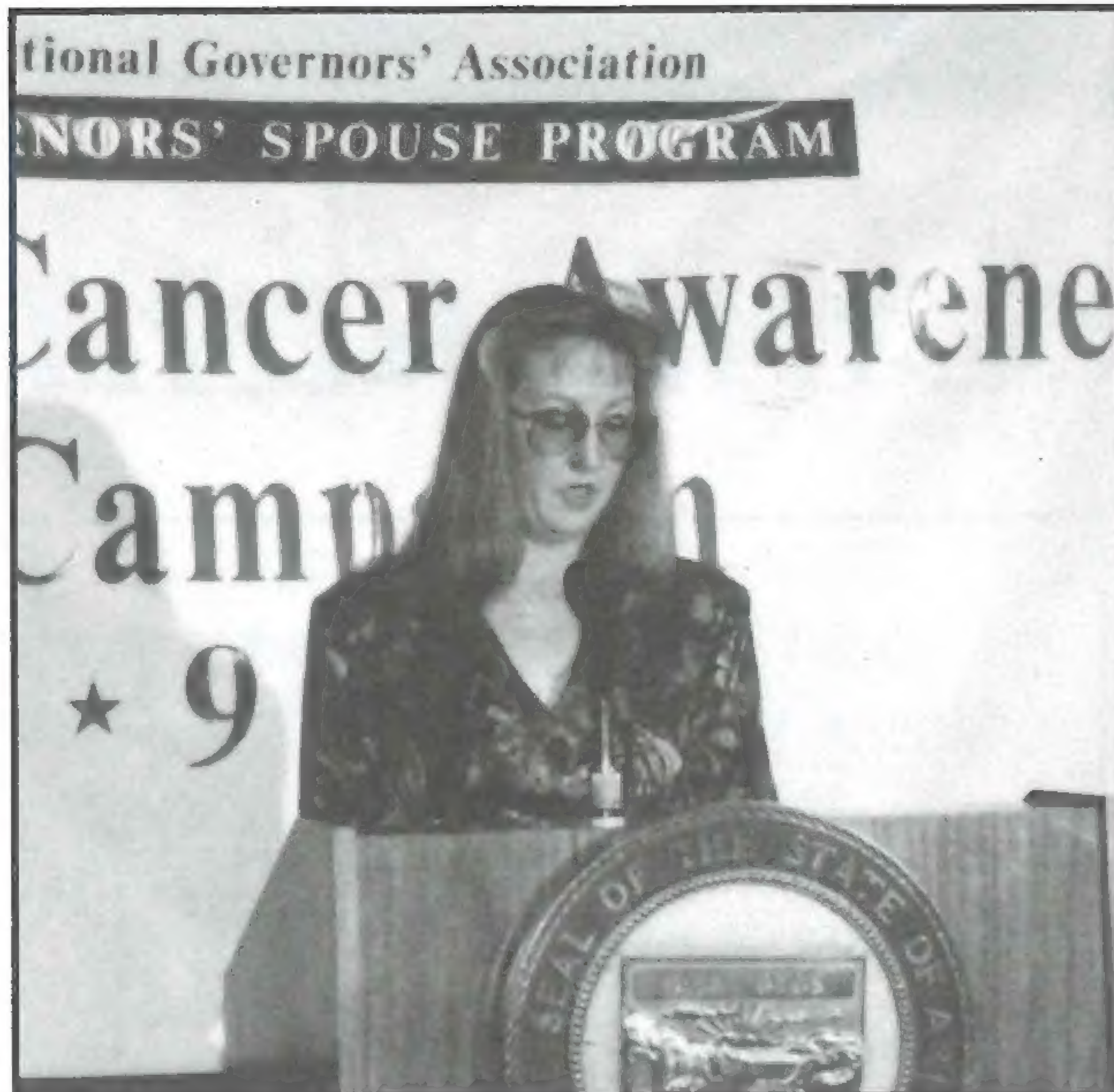
"By offering a breast cancer education program to the 26,000 employees of the state, we hope to set an example for all private and public employers in Arizona to offer similar information to their employees," Symington said.

"Without healthy employees it is not possible to have a healthy organization," she added. "Health promotion programs in the workplace can have a significant impact on employee health."

The American Cancer Society will provide volunteers and train state employees to lead a one-hour class at agencies throughout Arizona. The class will provide instruction on breast self-examination and information on clinical breast examination and mammography.

The free class will be offered year round as part of the state's existing employee wellness program. The first class was scheduled on National Mammography Day, Oct. 19, at the Risk Management Building.

The state employee Health & Benefits newsletter will contain a monthly calendar of classes and the schedule occasionally will be announced in payroll stuffers.



Breast cancer survivor Carol Asselin of the ADHS State Lab helps kick off Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Events were scheduled statewide during October to raise awareness about breast cancer and to provide education about the disease.

Those joining ADHS and Mrs. Symington as participants in Breast Cancer Awareness Month included the Arizona Women's Cancer Network and the state division of the American Cancer Society.

Nationally, the campaign was organized by the Governors' Spouse Program of the National Governors' Association, the American Cancer Society and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention. ⚙

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and actions will be taken to protect the wells. The actions could include specific types of zoning around the wells.

The county health department also has been heavily involved in activities intended to resolve a problem of failing septic systems in the county. Amendments were adopted to the county sanitary code giving my department the authority to license those who perform work on septic systems.

The border area has been growing rapidly in population and

Facts About Breast Cancer

✓ Any woman can contract breast cancer, regardless of age, family history or general health. Most at risk, however, are older women. Three quarters of all breast cancers occur in women older than 50.

✓ Breast cancer has become the most common female cancer in America. This year, 2,500 women in Arizona will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 600 Arizonans will die.

✓ The best protection against breast cancer is early detection and treatment.

✓ The risk is somewhat greater for women whose mothers or sisters have had the disease. Also, women who never have had children or had their first child after age 30 seem to be at somewhat higher risk.

✓ The 5-year survival rate for breast cancer is 79 percent and can be as high as 93 percent if the cancer is detected early.

The American Cancer Society recommends:

- Regular mammograms every one or two years for women 40 to 49 years old and annually after age 50.

- Clinical exams every three years for women 20 to 40 years old and annually after age 50.

- Breast self-exams monthly for women 20 years and older. ⚙

industrialization and may predict the growth will accelerate with the implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement. NAFTA probably means my department will see an increased demand for our current services and for new services. ⚙

[Zurick is director of the Santa Cruz County Health Department.]